



# REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: FN-BRD-215

From: Health Care Scholarship Committee

Date: May 4, 2023

**Subject: April 21, 2023 Health Care Scholarship Committee Meeting Recommendations**

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The following recommendations from the April 21, 2023 Health Care Scholarship Committee meeting are being presented to the Regional Board for its consideration:

## **RECOMMENDATION #1: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board approve the request from Northern Health Authority to carry-forward the unspent grant funds of \$111,000 to the 2023/2024 calendar year, \$40,647.27 of which is uncommitted and available for the 2023 grant intake.

## **RECOMMENDATION #2: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board authorize no further payments be made to Northern Health Authority, until they provide written confirmation that their uncommitted balance is below \$10,000, in accordance with section 5.0 of the MOU, which allows the funding contribution to be reduced in the event the prior years' annual funding contribution(s) is/are not fully utilized.

## **RECOMMENDATION #3: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board authorize staff to review the Memorandum of Understanding with the Northern Health Authority, to add clauses that dictate terms and conditions for the handling of surplus funds.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

The draft minutes of the April 21, 2023 Health Care Scholarship Committee Meeting are on the Consent Calendar.

### Recommendation #1, #2 & #3

Please [click here](#) to access the Committee Agenda, please see Item 8.1 to review the report.

Additional Information: As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) and the Northern Health Authority (NHA), the PRRD provides NHA with a payment of \$55,000 annually for the duration of the MOU for the administering of the PRRD Health Care Scholarship Programs. However, due to an under subscription to the scholarship program, a balance of \$111,000 has been amassed. According to the data provided, portions of the balance are partly due to pending hires and Bank of Montreal (BMO) processing. In total, there is \$32,853.73 pending processing and \$37,500 pending successful recruitment. Should all the pending funds be processed, NHA would have an available budget of \$40,647.27, not including the annual \$55,000 payment, which is to be paid on August 1st, as per the MOU for the 2023 scholarship applications. If

the request to carry forward the current balance is not approved, the NHA requests a course of action for the funds. Options for dealing with the unspent funds include:

- allowing Northern Health to carry-forward the unspent grant funds unconditionally,
- allowing Northern Health to carry-forward the unspent funds with conditions, or
- requesting that Northern Health return the uncommitted funds to the PRRD.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

**STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- ☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

As of March 31, 2023, the balance of the Medical health Care Scholarship Reserve was \$110,270.79.

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

Northern Health Authority will be notified in writing of the Regional Board's decision, regarding their request to carry-forward the unspent funds.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

None at this time.

**Attachments:**

1. Excerpt of Carry-Forward Request from Northern Health Authority
2. Northern Health & PRRD Health Care Scholarship MOU